

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-13 were pending prior to the Office Action. Claims 14-45 have been added through this Reply. Therefore, claims 1-45 are pending. Claims 1, 9, 11, 12, 14, and 30 are independent.

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED

Applicant thanks the Examiner for conducting an interview with Applicant's representative on May 6, 2004.

§ 102 REJECTION - YU

Claims 1-13 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Yu (USPN 5,434,621). Applicant respectfully traverses.

For a Section 102 rejection to be proper, the cited reference must teach or suggest each and every claimed element. See *M.P.E.P.* 2131; *M.P.E.P.* 706.02. Thus, if the cited reference fails to teach or suggest one or more elements, then the rejection is improper and must be withdrawn.

In this instance, Yu fails to teach or suggest each and every claimed element. For example, independent claim 1 recites, in part "wherein the control function provided in the lens apparatus includes a view angle correction function." Independent claims 9, 11, and 12 recite similar features. It should be noted that each independent claim includes a definition of the view angle correction function. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Yu may not be relied upon to teach or suggest at least this feature.

More specifically, Yu is directed toward an object tracking apparatus and method for maintaining a constant view angle by adjusting the movement direction and speed variation of a lens system to compensate for movement of an object or movement by a photographer using a camcorder. *See Yu, column 1, lines 10-13.* Yu discloses that controlling the zooming operation is required to maintain a constant view angle when the object to be photographed moves forward and backward or when the photographer moves forward and backward with respect to the object. *See Yu, column 2, lines 3-10.* In other words, Yu is directed toward a method and apparatus which maintains a constant view angle by

compensating **for change in physical distance** between the camera in relation to the object being imaged.

However, maintaining a constant view angle as disclosed in Yu is a completely different operation from performing a view angle correction as claimed. The view angle correction as claimed is an operation that entails moving the zoom lens to prevent a change of a view angle due to **moving of the focus lens**. See e.g. independent claims; Specification page 3, lines 3-4; page 14, line 27 - page 15, line 2.

The view angle correction operation is quite different from the operation as disclosed in Yu as the following example will demonstrate.<sup>1</sup> Whenever a focus lens moves back and forth along an optical axis of a camera, change in magnification occurs. For example, the camera may be initially focused on a distant object and then the user may initiate operations to focus on a nearby object **without physically moving the camera**. This requires the focusing lens to be moved within the camera. When the focusing lens moves within the camera, magnification changes, which in turn causes the image size of an object being viewed to

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<sup>1</sup> For more complete explanation, please refer to Quinn (USPN 4,083,057) which is referred to in the reference EP 0 869 381 A2, which was made available to the Examiner (see Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 1, 2003).

change. The viewing correction function compensates for this change in size, **due to the movement of the focus lens**, by moving the zooming lens appropriately.

This is to be contrasted with the invention as disclosed in Yu wherein the image size of the object changes **due to changes in the physical distance between the object and the camera**. Clearly, Yu cannot be relied upon to teach or suggest performing the view angle correction as claimed.

Also, independent claim 1 recites, in part, "wherein the control function ... includes at least one of a shot function and a limit function" and independent claims 10 and 11 recite, in part, "wherein the controller has a limit function." During the interview, it was agreed that Yu is entirely silent regarding performing either the shot function or the limit function.

Therefore, for at least the reasons stated above, independent claims 1, 9, 11, and 12 are distinguishable over Yu. Claims 2-8, 10, and 13 depend from independent claims 1, 9, or 12, directly or indirectly. Therefore, these dependent claims are also distinguishable over Yu for at least the reasons stated

above with respect to the independent claims as well as on their own merits.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-13, based on Yu, be withdrawn.

NEW CLAIMS

Claims 14-45 have been added through this reply. All new claims are believed to be distinguishable over the cited reference. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the new claims 14-45 be allowed.

CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Hyung Sohn (Reg. No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant respectfully petitions for a one (1) month extension of time for

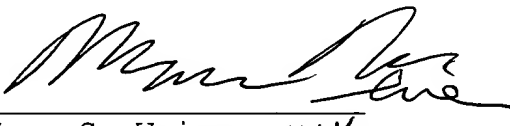
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filing a reply in connection with the present application, and the required fee is attached hereto.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH &, BIRCH, LLP

By:   
Marc S. Weiner HNS  
Reg. No. 32,181

MSW/HNS/jm  
879-269P

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000